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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

FROM: Alex R. Pagano, Reg. No. 44,994  
Re: U.S. Patent No. 09/835,088  
Please send confirmation fax to 973.597.6203

Date April 2, 2004

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TO: Mail Stop: Non-Fee Amendment  
Art Unit 3627  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9303

VOICE NO.:

Items:

- (1) Reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.142 (2 sheets); and
- (2) This fax cover.

TOTAL PAGES (WITH COVER) 3

CLIENT ID/MATTER #: Z2285/5

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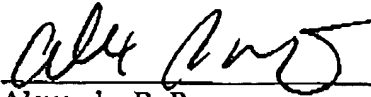
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PAGE 1/3 \* RCVD AT 4/2/2004 5:37:22 PM [Eastern Standard Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFAXF-1/1 \* DNIS:8729303 \* CSID: \* DURATION (mm-ss):01-02

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9302 on April 2, 2004.

  
Alexander R. Pagano  
Reg. No. 44,994  
Attorney for Applicants

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*In re* Application of Reding *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/835,088

Filing Date: April 13, 2001

Entitled: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATED  
COMMODITIES TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING AN  
AUTOMATIC HEDGING FUNCTIONAttorney File No.: ~~22285-5-5~~

Art Unit: 3627

Examiner: R. DYE

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.142

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 25, 2004 (the "Office Action"), please enter the following remarks into the file of the above-captioned application (the "Application").

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner requires restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 between:

(Group I) Claims 1-4, and 5-14 drawn to internet based systems for facilitating commercial transactions;

(Group II) Claims 15-20 and 21-22, respectively drawn to a method and system for facilitating commercial transactions between a first class of participants/parties and a second class of participants/parties; and

(Group III) Claims 23-24, respectively drawn to a server-based system for facilitating transactions between buyers of a commodity and sellers of a commodity and method for allowing a purchaser of a commodity to post information relating to bids to purchase commodities on a system.

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